

**TOWN OF BUCKEYE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 23, 2008
MINUTES**

**Alice Charman Municipal Building
1101 E. Ash Avenue
Buckeye, AZ 85326
3:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

Mayor Meck called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Meck, Vice Mayor May, Councilman Rioux, Councilman Doster (arrived at 3:02 p.m.), Councilman Garza, and Councilman Hardesty.

Members Absent: Councilman McAchran

Department Present: Assistant Town Manager Scott Rounds, Town Attorney Scott Ruby (by teleconference), Town Clerk Linda Garrison, Council Assistant Carol Conley, Interim Community Development Director Suparna Dasgupta, Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Muckler, Chris Williams, Procurement Manager and Scott Lowe Public Works Director.

2. Letter of Intent to Purchase Real Property Located north of I-10 on the southwest corner of Jackrabbit Trail and Encanto Boulevard.

The purchase of this property was considered by Council at a regular meeting in October 2008. Mayor Meck gave background as to why this item was coming before Council at this special meeting. He indicated that he had spoken with the owner of the property and that the property was now being considered at a lower sale price. The letter of intent is for 7 acres and the price is \$1,350,000. There is a proposed Improvement District in the area which would mean the town would not need to be responsible for water and sewer to the area. This property will be going into foreclosure on January 9, 2009. Suparna Dasgupta, Interim Community Development Director gave input as to how this site was originally selected by staff. She reviewed the sites that were originally studied for a possible Park and Ride and what led to the decision on this property. Questions came up on the high school property and Ms. Dasgupta indicated the appraisal for that property was higher than the property in question. Councilman Rioux wanted to know if there is a current appraisal for the property. Staff stated that an appraisal was done September 11, 2008 that came in at \$1,753,000 for seven acres. He indicated that he felt the cost per acre was extremely high and he has a concern spending taxpayer's money even though the money will be reimbursed. Councilman Garza also indicated that the price was too high and would like to see an appraisal done now. Councilman Doster did not agree and said that this is in the best interest of the community. Councilman Hardesty also indicated it was too much money per acre. Vice Mayor May agreed with Councilman Doster that it is a needed project but also felt that it is too high. Councilman Rioux said that he is not against the Park and Ride; he just feels the price is too high. Councilman Doster indicated that its time to look at the Town's future. Mayor Meck called for the motion. Moved by Councilman Doster, seconded by Vice Mayor May to approve a letter of intent to purchase the real property located north of I-10 on the southwest corner of Jackrabbit Trail and Encanto Boulevard to utilize a park and ride facility. Councilman Rioux, Councilman Garza, Councilman Hardesty voted "No", Vice Mayor May, Councilman Doster, and Mayor Meck voted "Aye". The motion failed.

Councilman Rioux indicated that he would reconsider at a lower price. The owner of the property, Mr. Harrison, spoke that the property was fairly priced and presented his reasoning for thinking so. Mayor Meck asked for a motion to reconsider. There was no motion made.

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Adjournment

Moved by Councilman Rioux, seconded by Councilman Hardesty to adjourn 3:55 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Jackie A. Meck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Garrison, Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the Buckeye Town Council Special Meeting held on December 23, 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Linda Garrison, Town Clerk